(a) whether Government have received a communication requesting for extending the Local Call facility of MTNL (Mumbai) to MOHOWE and surrounding areas of Kalyan Municipal Corporation jurisdiction in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the present status of the request; and

(c) by when the decision is expected to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. The name of the place is Mohone.

(b) Sir, Mohone and its surrounding areas under Kalyan Municipal Corporation's jurisdiction are presently being served from Ulhasnagar telephone exchange due to technical constraints. A separate telephone exchange has been planned for catering to this area. The new exchange will have 3 minute interdialling facility with Mumbai at par with other exchanges in Kalyan Municipal Corporation's jurisdiction.

(c) It is expected to be commissioned by March, 1998.

Post Offices in Rural Areas of Gujarat

*9. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Post Offices functioning in rural areas of Gujarat;

(b) the number of villages in the State where post office facilities are not provided; and

(c) the number of representations received by Government for opening of Post Offices in villages of the State and the action taken by Government thereon so far?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) The number of post offices functioning in rural areas of Gujarat is 8142.

(b) There are 9922 villages where no post office has been provided. However, postal facilities are being made available to such villages from near by post offices.

(c) The number of representations received by Government for opening of Post Offices in villages of the State is 7. Only one proposal out of these was found justified on the basis of norms and the same is being processed.

Ban on Sale of Lotteries

*10. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of MPs has sought urgent measures for a country-wide ban on sale of lotteries; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration of the Government.

Foreign Contributions Received by NGOs

*11. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total remittances received in the country as foreign contributions by various NGOs in the country during last three years, year-wise;

(b) the names and the amount received from each of the countries;

(c) the names of the organisations and the amount received by each of the organisations and the country from where the contributions were received; and

(d) how many cases of misuse of foreign contributions were detected and